

WASHINGTON.

Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1851.

LESSONS FOR AGITATORS.

The subjoined impressive articles from a South Carolina paper show that already, without having taken the first direct step in its proposed Revolution, the mere apprehension of such a design is saluting in that State a part of the evils in which the actual attempt at Revolution—Secession, it is called by its advocates—will certainly involve any State that indulges in such Quixotic experiments. We transfer these articles to our columns for the purpose of exposing to our readers, in other States than South Carolina, the inevitable consequences of suffering themselves to be swayed to extreme measures by mere speculations in the affairs of Government, who are obliged in the outset, having nothing substantial to build upon, to fabricate a foundation for their complaints, and a pretence for premeditated violence, in the shape of an array of grievances which exist, for the most part, only in their heated imaginations.

Speaking of his own countrymen rehearsing in England some of the doctrines which had, in his day, under the garb of a false philosophy, deluged with blood and crime the fair regions of France, Edmund Burke, sixty years ago, described that class of politicians in terms so applicable, in many particulars, to our Southern (and Northern) Agitators of the present day, that many of our readers will, we dare say, thank us for quoting what he said of them. Here it is:

"I confess," said Burke, "I never liked this continued talk of resistance, and revolution, or the practice of making the extreme medicine of the Constitution its daily bread. It renders the habit of society dangerously salutary."

"Hypocrisy, of course, delights in the most sublime speculations: for, never intending to go beyond speculation, it costs nothing to have it magnificent. But, even in cases where rather levity than fraud was to be suspected in these ranting speculations, the issue has been much the same. These professors, finding their extreme principles not applicable to cases which call only for a qualified, or, as I may say, civil and legal resistance, in such cases employ no [such] resistance at all. It is with them a War or a Revolution, or it is nothing. Finding their schemes of politics not adapted to the world in which they live, they often come to think lightly of all public principle; and are ready, on their part, to abandon, for a very trivial interest, what they find of very trivial value. Some, indeed, are of more steady and persevering natures; but these are eager politicians of Parliament, who have little to tempt them to abandon their favorite projects. They have some change in the Church or State, or both, constantly in their view. When that is the case, they are always bad citizens, and perfectly unscrupulous. For, considering their speculative designs as of infinite value, and the actual arrangement of the State as of no estimation, they are at best indifferent about it. They see no merit in the good, and no fault in the vicious management of public affairs: they rather rejoice in the latter, as more propitious to revolution. They see no merit or demerit in any man, or any action, or political principle, any further than as they may forward or retard their desire of change; they therefore take up one day the most violent and stretched prerogative, and another time the wildest democratic ideas of freedom, and pass from the one to the other without any sort of regard to cause, to person, or to party."

FROM THE SOUTHERN PATRIOT OF MAY 20.

THE SPIRIT OF JACOBINISM.—A correspondent from Charleston writes us that there was a fierce, intolerant spirit of Jacobinism manifesting itself in the tone and bearing of the members of the recent Convention. Gen. BRIGGS, a gentleman of high character and chivalric honor, was so much disgusted with this manifestation that he immediately ordered his name to be stricken, as a member, from the Southern Rights Association. Mr. FARRAR, of Columbia, has written one or two patriotic odes in favor of the Union and the preservation of the Republic, to which he has sworn allegiance. For this he has been addressed, through the Post Office, in doggerel rhyme, with a gallows drawn as a frontispiece, over the very significant signature of JACK KETCH.

Some time ago destruction was threatened to the *Patriot* office, in case it should be established; and in Charleston it was threatened to throw overboard our type and press as soon as they should land. Recently it has been said that all who oppose secession would have to leave the State to save their property and their necks.

These are indications of what we are to expect if this movement goes on. Remember, too, this is a movement in the name of liberty and patriotism against Northern insults and Federal indignities. The consequences are already felt in South Carolina. Some of our best and worthiest citizens are about leaving the State, and seeking a home where they can live in peace and quietness. Business men are becoming alarmed, and feel a just apprehension as to the security of their business. Property-holders see that their lands and negroes must diminish in value, and that capital will go elsewhere to be invested. The bills of all our banks must return on them from the adjoining States, and the debtors to the banks will have this pressure to meet. Confidence will be destroyed, and a deep, wide-spread ruin will pervade the country.

Instead of that peace, smiling prosperity, and general happiness which now bless our land, and which ought to restrain us in our madness and folly, South Carolina is to be doomed to a hopeless civil commotion, where no man will feel that either his family or his property is safe. The poor man is to be dragged off to fight the battles of his State, and the rich one must give up his property to support the war. The laborer and the mechanic are to abandon their business, the merchant is to close his doors and give up the collection of his dues. The English missionary and the Northern abolitionist may be amongst us, sowing the seeds of discord, and stirring up servile insurrection. We march off to meet a foreign foe, and leave a black enemy in our midst. It may be that our gallant citizens will return crowned with victory, to witness the smouldering ruins of their habitations and the bloody graves of their wives and children.

FROM THE SAME PAPER OF MAY 22.

CAPITAL LEAVING SOUTH CAROLINA.—We understand that a gentleman of this place has recently carried ten thousand dollars in money to invest in Georgia or Alabama, or place there at interest, in consequence of our taxation and civil commotion. This gentleman, too, is a member of the Southern Rights Association. We were likewise informed that application was made to another large capitalist in this district for a loan of a few hundred dollars, and he informed the applicant that it was not his purpose to lend out any more money in South Carolina. We have also heard that some of the business men in our community, having large demands owing to them, would commence a general collection in time for secession. The bills of South Carolina banks are already beginning to return from Georgia and Alabama, under the suspicion that their credit will be affected by our civil commotion. In one instance, but a few days since, a gentleman drew from the bank in Charleston, for the upper currency, five thousand dollars in specie, preferring to have his money in gold and silver to bank bills. There can be no suspension of specie payments in that case, where the money is wanted. We were consulted the other day by a gentleman, who wished to make a purchase of some real estate, whether we thought the State would secede; if so, he did not intend to purchase. A gentleman just from Charleston, and a dele-

gate too to the late Convention there, informs us that, if it was certain the State would secede, in six months real estate in the city would not sell at half price. In preparation for secession, a merchant of this place has already ordered his shipments to Savannah instead of Charleston. Another one of our citizens, who has spent perhaps a hundred thousand dollars in Greenville, drawn from his estate in Georgia, is about to leave the "sinking ship," and cast his habitation where he may be quiet and live in peace. Thus it is the anticipations of secession are proving disastrous to the State. What will the reality be? It is a fearful question to answer. May the Almighty, in His mercy, avert so awful a calamity, should be the prayer of every true hearted and patriotic Carolinian.

MEXICAN CLAIMS IN PROSPECT.

We are indebted to a friend for the following translation of an advertisement in a Chihuahua paper of the 8th of March last.

Very large claims have been presented, or will be presented soon, to our Government for damages done by the wild Indians in our newly-acquired territory to Mexico.

STATE DEPARTMENT, CHIHUAHUA, MARCH 5, 1851.

The citizens of this State are hereby informed (in conformity with instructions from the Government at Mexico) that all persons who may have claims against the Government of the United States for damages sustained from the incursions of Indians will forward them to this Department, so that they may be admitted, and their payment demanded.

AMADO DE LA YEGA.

RIVER AND HARBOR CONVENTION.

A call has been made in the Evansville Journal for a Convention to be held in Louisville in October next, without distinction of party, for the purpose of devising ways and means to secure at the next session of Congress appropriations for the Western rivers and harbors. It is stated by the Louisville Courier, on private authority, that this movement has originated with several distinguished Western Democrats, who believe that such appropriations are strictly constitutional, and that the bill introduced by the Committee on Commerce ought to have passed.

Amongst the late political movements in Alabama we notice that the Hon. WM. L. YANCEY declines the Secession nomination for Congress in the Montgomery District, leaving the field open for the Union candidate, JAMES ABERNETHY. Mr. YANCEY also declines the nomination of his Disunion friends for Governor. Hon. BENJAMIN G. SHELDES is the Union candidate for that office.

The Postmaster General returned to the seat of Government yesterday from his visit to his residence in New York.

WILLIAM H. WASHINGTON, a Whig of high character and ability, has been nominated as the Whig candidate for Congress in the district of North Carolina represented in the last Congress by Mr. STANLEY, who declines a re-election.

Ex-Governor HUGH McVAY, of Alabama, died at his residence in Lauderdale county on the 9th instant, in the 85th year of his age. He was for some thirty years identified with the legislation of Alabama, commencing at the time of the establishment of the Territorial Government.

SOUNDING THE GULF STREAM.—The Key West correspondent of the Savannah Republican writes as follows relative to the late attempt by the officers of the United States steamer *Hetzl* to sound the Gulf Stream between Key West and Havana. The figures differ somewhat from those contained in the brief paragraph which we published a day or two ago, but this writer professes to speak from accurate information:

"The *Hetzl* left here with a line about 3,200 fathoms in length. Her first sounding was seven miles from Sand Key, in 280 fathoms. On raising the lead from this depth, the thermometer stood at 45. The instrument was considered a superior one; but we cannot believe that this could have been the temperature of the water at that depth. It is more probable that the index on the thermometer was operated upon by the pressure of the water, or some other cause, which caused it to make a false report. The lead was again sent down about twenty miles from Sand Key, and let out to its full length. It could not be ascertained, by handling the line, whether it reached the bottom. On raising it the line broke at 2,900 fathoms, from what cause is unknown; thus depriving the world perhaps for a time of the interesting fact that this wonderful current can be sounded. We hear that it is probable that the attempt will be renewed next year."

The Louisville Journal, in noticing the design of Putnam, of New York, to publish an elegantly illustrated edition of *Swallow Barn*, by J. P. KENNEDY, Esq., says:

"We have always regarded *Swallow Barn* as one of the very highest efforts of American mind. It is exquisitely written, and the scenes are vividly described. Its pictures of Virginia life and manners are the best ever drawn. It is eminently worthy of a splendid edition, and if Americans do not buy copies of that in progress, readily, we shall be greatly surprised at their want of appreciation of a most excellent and fascinating work."

CUBA.—Some of the newspapers are busy in displaying the charms and lauding the treasures of this beautiful island, while they are eloquent in deploring its fate under the withering power of tyranny. They tell us very gravely that it was discovered by Columbus in 1492, and that all its original inhabitants (200,000!) have been exterminated. Is that any good reason why this Government should now subjugate it, and exterminate 200,000 more people? They tell us it is one of the most delicious spots on the earth. Is that any reason that should deluge it with blood? They tell us it covers 44,000 square miles. Is this to be an inducement to cupidity to plunder its lands? They tell us that only one-twelfth part is under cultivation. Is this to be another temptation to the invaders? No doubt Cuba is beautiful, and a comparative desert under its present doom of double bondage; but that is no reason why Americans should turn brigands, and the Government of the United States violate the sacred obligations of treaties, by ministering to the cupidity of adventurers, who may have a contingent interest in the spoil, sack, and plunder.

(Public Ledger.)

THE RESULT OF KINDNESS.—The Jacksonville (Illinois) Journal says that, when the superintendent of the asylum for the poor in that county first took charge of it, he found an insane man who had been loaded with heavy chains for years. Believing that this cruelly kept the man insane, he took the responsibility of taking them off, and gradually restoring him to liberty. The man at first raved, expecting from torture to liberty. The man at first raved, expecting from torture to liberty. The man at first raved, expecting from torture to liberty.

RAILROAD ENTERPRISE IN LOUISIANA.—A New Orleans paper states that the handsome sum of four hundred thousand dollars has already been subscribed for the great New Orleans, Jackson, and Northern Railroad. Surveys will be immediately sent out to survey the route, and arrangements made to procure the necessary materials to build the road.

A SAIL CAUSE.—The St. Louis Intelligencer of the 21st says: "Three thousand five hundred dollars in American gold, the property of an elderly gentleman named Hines, was stolen from a state room on the steamer Dr. Franklin yesterday. Mr. Hines, with his wife and five daughters, had taken passage upon the Franklin, with the view of locating in the vicinity of Rock Island. While at dinner, yesterday, his state room was entered from the guard, the trunk containing his money broken open with a chisel, and the above amount, being all he possessed, extracted therefrom. This was done by a state room attendant named Hines, who, after robbing him, fled with his wife and five daughters, and is now being sought by the police. Mr. Hines, who was married just before being caught by her father."

THE SEVENTH CENSUS.

We give in another column a table of the Seventh Census of the United States, together with the Apportionment of Representatives among the several States, for the ensuing decade, commencing with the Thirty-third Congress. The population is made up from the official returns, with the exception of that of California, Oregon, and Utah, which is estimated. We published this table in February last, but reproduce it at this time in consequence of observing in circulation an Apportionment of Representation containing several inaccuracies.

Those only who remember the tedious and angry contests which have heretofore taken place in Congress under every new census, in the apportionment of representation among the States—each member striving for a ratio that would throw upon his State the smallest fraction—can appreciate the wisdom which suggested the present mode of settling that hitherto difficult and vexatious question; a mode so simple, so equitable, so easy of adjustment. The number of inhabitants in each State being ascertained, and the number of which the House of Representatives shall be composed having been established by law, the ascertainment of the ratio is a mere question of simple arithmetic, which a school-boy might solve. The system works with the ease and harmony of a law of nature. For this invaluable reform the country is indebted to that wise and veteran legislator, SAMUEL F. VINTON, of Ohio, whose withdrawal from Congress cannot be otherwise than deeply regretted by every friend to his country.

Mr. WEBSTER.—The Albany Argus of Wednesday, in alluding to Mr. WEBSTER's visit to that city, has the following liberal remarks, more honorable even to their author than to him who is the subject of them:

"We intended to have said yesterday, in alluding to the demonstration in honor of Mr. WEBSTER, that it originated with young men of this city without regard to party, and was intended to be an affair altogether of that character. That the invitation was afterwards more generally signed was not the result of solicitation on the part of its originators. No sooner did the movement become known than it was found that many citizens, without regard to age or politics, were desirous of being parties to it; and the opportunity being presented, they cordially availed themselves of it. No doubt, had it been the object to make a parade of names, the list might have been indefinitely extended without effort. Such, we are gratified to say, is the depth and strength in this city of the truly national and patriotic sentiment which Mr. WEBSTER has omitted no suitable opportunity to inculcate and strengthen during his visit to this State. And, we may add, that, honorable as such expressions of respect may be to him, they are much more honorable to those who, regarding country as above party, are prompt to tender them."

The Delegation in the next Congress from the State of MASSACHUSETTS is now complete, as follows:

1. Wm. Appleton. 6. Geo. T. Davis.
2. Robt. Rantoul, jr. 7. John Z. Goodrich.
3. Jas. H. Duncan. 8. Horace Mann.
4. Benj. Thompson. 9. Orin Fowler.
5. Chas. Allen. 10. Zeno Scudder.

A large Whig meeting was held at Philadelphia on Friday evening, for the purpose of expressing approval of Gov. JOHNSON's patriotic exertions to free the State from debt, to promote the public interests, and to sustain the public credit. W. NEAL, Esq. presided. After a speech from Mr. ALLISON, the Governor himself appeared on the platform, in the midst of repeated rounds of applause, and addressed the meeting at length.

From the New York Observer.

A VOICE FROM A MISSIONARY.—A clergyman in the South-west writes to us as a postscript to a business letter:

"Please say to the Abolitionists at the North, and those who advise the fugitive slaves to resist, that, in the opinion of one who has been a missionary for more than fifteen years in the State of Mississippi, one-half of my time being devoted to the instruction of the colored people, they are doing more to perpetuate slavery, and more damage to the slaves at the South, than all the world beside, and that I do regard them as the worst enemies the slave has upon earth. Will they think of this?"

INDICTMENT OF CUBANS AT NEW YORK.—The Grand Jury of the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York on Saturday returned bills of indictment against JOHN L. O'SULLIVAN, Captain LEWIS, and Major SLESSINGER, as being engaged in fitting out an expedition against Cuba, &c. Bench warrants were issued. Capt. Lewis gave security for his appearance for trial in \$5,000. The other parties were expected to appear on Monday (to-day) and enter into recognizance for trial.

The United States mail steamship *Arctic* sailed from New York on Saturday for Liverpool, with one hundred and forty-nine passengers and nearly half a million of dollars in specie. Among the passengers who have gone to England in her is J. C. G. KENNEDY, Esq., Secretary of the United States Census Board.

THE PENITENT EXPERIMENT.—The Trenton Gazette of Thursday says: "The Hon. S. D. INGRAM, of this city, has tried the pendulum experiment twice or three times in the Rotunda of the State House, in the presence of a number of gentlemen. Each time it was successful. After being set in motion over the centre of a table, whose circumference was divided into segments of seven and a half degrees, the pendulum was found to diverge in about an hour, from the line of its first oscillation, to the extent of one of these segments. It is inferred thence, that, if it were kept moving, it would make the circuit of the table in about two days. It was set moving eastwardly and westwardly, and it diverged towards the south on the eastern circumference of the table, and towards the north on the western. This experiment has now been tried by many persons, and we have not heard of its failing in a single instance. But how it illustrates the diurnal motion of the earth it is impossible for us to understand, and the difficulty is felt, as we perceive, by a good many persons besides ourselves."

NAVAL.—A letter dated at Key West, Florida, on the 22d instant, says: "The United States steamer *Saracen*, Commodore TATE, has just arrived in port. She left Pensacola a few days since, arrived last night off Havana, spoke the sloop-of-war *Decatur*, and sailed for this place. The *Decatur* is also coming. Their presence bodes no good to all expeditions against Cuba that may fall in their way."

DETERMINED TO BE MARRIED.—A Young German girl, aged 15, who had run away from New Jersey with her lover, got married, on finding him continually intoxicated after she got to Philadelphia, accepted the proposals there of another young man, and was married just before being caught by her father."

RECEPTION OF THE FRENCH MINISTER.

M. DE SARTIGES, accompanied by the Secretary of the French Legation and other members of the Mission, was on Thursday, at one o'clock P. M., presented to the President, by the Acting Secretary of State, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the French Republic. Upon delivering his letter of credence, the Minister addressed the President as follows:

Mr. PRESIDENT: Having been invited by the confidence of the President of the Republic to the honor of representing the French Government near the Government of the United States, I consider myself fortunate in being called upon to be the interpreter of the sentiments of friendship and exalted sympathy which actuate our Government, and I may say, our country, towards your nation—a nation so worthy of the great prosperity she enjoys. It shall be my care, Mr. President, with the aid of your known good wishes, to maintain and to strengthen the relations which now exist between our respective countries; in doing which, I shall carry out faithfully the intentions of the President of the French Republic, who, in virtue of the credentials which I have the honor of placing into your hands, has accredited me as his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near your Government.

To the Minister's address the President replied:

Sir: I am happy to welcome you as the Representative of France, and to receive from you as such the renewed assurance of friendship and sympathy on the part of your Government and country towards the United States.

Our friendship for France originated with our struggle for a national existence, and was cemented by the mingling of the blood of our Revolutionary sires with that of their allies, the heroes of France; and through all the various political changes of your great and enlightened country, a deep sentiment of national sympathy has pervaded this People, rejoicing in your prosperity, and hailing with unaffected delight your recent advent among the nations of the earth as a sister Republic.

I beg leave to assure you that nothing shall be wanting on my part to maintain and strengthen the friendly relations which now exist between the two Governments, and draw more closely the ties which bind them to each other. As one means of accomplishing this desirable object, I again welcome you to our shores as the diplomatic agent of the leading Republic of Europe.

THE CUBAN INVASION.

The Havana *Gaceta* of the 7th instant publishes the following document, which it is "authorized" to do. The same paper refers to the "ridicule" which its perusal must excite, and describes the letter of Lopez to the insurrectionary chiefs in Cuba as "a revelation of the intellectual abilities of the traitor who calls himself chief of the piratical expedition, and of the resources on which he counts to achieve his objects; if, indeed, he proposes any thing more than to sack some defenceless town, as he did Cardenas last year." The expedition, it now appears, was to have been put on foot several months since. From present indications, particularly the organized force of United States vessels cruising on the main, the expedition seems to be indefinitely postponed.—*Richmond Enquirer*.

INSTRUCTIONS.

I will disembark at any point of the island between Havana and Cuba, and perhaps before ten days from date an American General, with a strong expedition, will likewise land exactly north of the *Puella de Arroyo*, at any point.

It is to be understood that the object of this expedition, so that, on the news of my landing, the cry (*grito*) of independence may be raised in the greatest numbers of points possible. The parties in arms will not abandon the line from Batambano and Havana to Cape San Antonio, except in case of a well-founded fear of attack. In that case they may divide, and afterwards reconcentrate on the American forces, if they shall have arrived, and afterwards march towards where they may be sure of meeting me. It will be of service to them not to forget the great number of horses (for hire) which are always standing ready in the stable.

In order to facilitate and ensure all this, it is necessary to take measures to render the railway useless, by burning, or, better still, by blowing up the engines. At every point where the railway crosses a river, or a stream, or a road, where they should be destroyed, and afterwards march towards where they may be sure of meeting me. It will be of service to them not to forget the great number of horses (for hire) which are always standing ready in the stable.

Advances will be made from the specified line towards the centre, thus concentrating the forces, and raising the towns which may not have pronounced, in the shortest time possible.

If the fortification which has been indicated to me can be counted on, or if, by a daring coup *de main* during the confusion and disorder produced by the news of my landing, any other strong point can be captured, every effort will be finished at the outset, because the moral effect of such an act would be a death blow to despotism throughout the island. This should be done at Havana, or at some similar place; in which case, all that is to be done will be yielded to the direction of the man who may be considered most fit and proper among those who are ready to sacrifice themselves for the liberty of the country. Every person being assured that neither the said American General nor myself will lose sight of him for a single instant. If, however, nothing of this character can be effected, then as many of the Havana people as wish to take part in the glory of realizing the enterprise may make a prior agreement among themselves, and designating a proper point of rendezvous, and afterwards march towards where they may be sure of meeting me. It will be of service to them not to forget the great number of horses (for hire) which are always standing ready in the stable.

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If the fortification which has been indicated to me can be counted on, or if, by a daring coup *de main* during the confusion and disorder produced by the news of my landing, any other strong point can be captured, every effort will be finished at the outset, because the moral effect of such an act would be a death blow to despotism throughout the island. This should be done at Havana, or at some similar place; in which case, all that is to be done will be yielded to the direction of the man who may be considered most fit and proper among those who are ready to sacrifice themselves for the liberty of the country. Every person being assured that neither the said American General nor myself will lose sight of him for a single instant. If, however, nothing of this character can be effected, then as many of the Havana people as wish to take part in the glory of realizing the enterprise may make a prior agreement among themselves, and designating a proper point of rendezvous, and afterwards march towards where they may be sure of meeting me. It will be of service to them not to forget the great number of horses (for hire) which are always standing ready in the stable.

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